



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

**County of Los Angeles**  
**Sheriff's Department Headquarters**  
**4700 Ramona Boulevard**  
**Monterey Park, California 91754-2169**



June 8, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL  
INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2004  
DNA CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM  
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Authorize the Sheriff to submit a grant application on behalf of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Scientific Services Bureau, to the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice (NIJ), requesting a portion of the \$4,081,225 in federal funds available to the State of California. Under the Fiscal Year 2004 DNA Capacity Enhancement Program, a total of \$28,514,323 in federal funds is available nationwide. With its share of these funds, the Department will propose to procure automated systems, upgraded laboratory equipment, and necessary computer hardware and software. Should the Department be successful in our pursuit of this funding opportunity, no matching funds will be required of the County.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

On May 18, 2004, the NIJ announced the availability of funding under the 2004 DNA Capacity Enhancement Program. Under this program, awarded agencies and/or jurisdictions are expected to improve their DNA analysis capacity and/or improve the

infrastructure of existing crime laboratories. As a result of these developments, these entities will be given the opportunity to process DNA samples more efficiently and cost-effectively.

In achieving the goals and expectations of the 2004 DNA Capacity Enhancement Program, the Department may use these grants funds to upgrade laboratory equipment, renovate facilities, off-set administrative costs, and/or procure and retain contractor services, supplies, training, accreditation(s), and certification(s). It is the NIJ's expectation that achievement of these milestones will ensure, amongst other things, effective and efficient DNA analyses, as well as increases in the level of integrity with which investigations are conducted.

To successfully achieve the requirements and expectations of the 2004 DNA Capacity Enhancement Program, the Department will propose to outfit the Department's crime laboratory with automated systems, upgrade and/or replace laboratory equipment, and procure necessary computer hardware and software. In retaining these valuable assets, the Department will increase analyst productivity, streamline DNA procedures, and reduce the potential for human error and contamination. Realization of these proposed goals and objectives will also assist in ensuring that the Department continues to successfully meet its accreditation requirements.

#### Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The 2004 DNA Capacity Enhancement Program supports each of the four (4) goals within the County of Los Angeles' Strategic Plan. Specifically, with the support of this potential funding source, the Department will be able to realize the achievement of Goal #1: Service Excellence, Goal #2: Workforce Excellence, Goal #3: Organizational Effectiveness, and Goal #4: Fiscal Responsibility. With the grant funds being directed towards assisting the Department in improving the overall operation of the Scientific Services Bureau, not only will the Department be given the opportunity to complete its tasks, duties, and responsibilities more effectively and efficiently, but the safety and security of the residents of Los Angeles County will ultimately be secured and/or improved.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The 2004 DNA Capacity Enhancement Program is for a term of 18 months. Of the \$28,514,323 in federal funds available nationwide, \$4,081,225 is available to the State of California. Under this program, no matching funds are required from Los Angeles County.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
June 8, 2004  
Page 3

**FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

This Board letter has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel and the affected departments.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Receipt of these funds may create workload increases, in the form of defendants charged with crimes, for the County's justice departments, including the District Attorney, Public Defender, and the Alternate Public Defender. It must be stated, however, that this increase in the justice departments' workload will be to the overall benefit of Los Angeles County.

**CONCLUSION**

Upon approval by your Board, the Department requests that your Board please provide four (4) individually adopted copies of this action to the Sheriff's Department. The Department's contacts for this requested Board action are Karen J. Anderson, Grants Manager, at (323) 526-5408 or Richard F. Martinez, Grants Coordinator, at (323) 526-5299.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leroy D. Baca". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Leroy" and last name "Baca" clearly distinguishable.

LEROY D. BACA  
SHERIFF